

FRIDAY
June 20, 1958
2:56 p.m.

TELEPHONE CALL FROM DAVID LAWRENCE

The Sec returned the call and L said he feels the time may be here to play a little game with the Soviet people re the 9 in East Germany. The legal status of that area is still within the 4 power agreement militarily. If they take the position they have relinquished control over that and transferred it to the EGerman regime then they have not the right to transfer it to anyone. It reverts to the 3 powers. Then the 3 have to do it. It is a hint to take them by military force but we don't have to spell it out. It will produce a rhubarb but they will be on the defensive. It will show we are concerned with what happens to the E Germans, it shows we will take no nonsense from anyone, it is in line with international law that when nationals are being mistreated you have the right to land Marines or troops to take them away. It will transfer the whole focus into their laps. The Sec said we have to be careful we don't turn over WGermany. L said all have recognized WGermany - it is different. It is a strategy of confusion but puts us in a better position than begging them to let our boys out. L has mentioned the above to Murphy and Nixon. The Sec said he will have it looked into.

Handwritten notes:
AB
FH
Can you follow up?
p15
Done
6/20/58

Stamp:
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 20 1958

They talked re Princeton. Joe Green told L the Sec's remarks were of the best he has ever heard the Sec make. The Sec said Krock thought it was good.

pdb